and optimal development of land, water, livestock and human resources to mitigate the effects of drought and reduce fluctuations in income by adoption of appropriate land use practices and through infra-structure development. It is a Centrally sponsored scheme on 50 : 50 sharing basis between the Government of India and the State Government.

There are several sectors of activity under DPAP such as Afforestation, Minor Irrigation, Dryland Agriculture, Soil and moisture conservation, Live-stock Development, Horticulture, Sericulture, Fisheries, etc. During Sixth Plan period, the total expenditure on minor irrigation was Rs 16.34 crores, accoounting for 49.2% of the total allocation of Rs. 33.18 crores and 58.1% of the total expenditure of Rs. 28.10 crores under DPAP. During 1985-86, the total expenditure on minor irrigation was Rs. 3.40 crores accounting for 52.5% of the total allocation of Rs. 60.48 crores and 63.9% of the total expenditure of Rs. 5.32 crores under DPAP. In addition, substantial Central assistance has also been made available under Centrally Sponsored Schemes relating to Strangthening of Ground Water and Surface Water Organisations of States/UTs and Encouraging Irrigation through sprinkler drip System, hydrams, water turbines and man/animal operated pumps.

Thus, the apprehension that the areas covered under DPAP may turn into wasteland on account of lack of central assistance to irrigation schemes is not well founded.

Ownership rights to tenants in States/UTs

*340. SHRI LAL K. ADVANI : SHRI KAILASH PATI MISHRA:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that in May 1985, the Conference of State Revenue Ministers had decided tha all insecure and informal tenants and share croppers should be brought on record irrespective of whether tenancy is recognised or abolished in the States and that the ownership rights be conferred upon all tenants including Bargadars, thus limiting tenancy to the specified disabled categories only ; and

(b) if so, what progress has been made so far in this direction by each State and Union Territory ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI RAMANAND YADAV) : (a) and (b) A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix CXXXIX, Annexure No. 92]

New accord on reservation

†1563. SHRI M.S. GURUPADASWAMY : Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government proposed to arrive at a new accord on Reservation in the country;

(b) if so, the reasons which have necessitated a new approach ; and

(c) what are the new proposals ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF WELFARE (SHRI GIRDHAR GOMANGO) : (a) and (b) The reference is perhaps to the recommendations of the Mandal Commission. The Government is of the opinion that if any change in the policy of reservation in respect of other Backward Classes, is made it should be preceded by a national consensus and the Home Minister had accordingly addressed all the Chief Ministers on 25-5-1985.

(c) There are no new proposals under consideration.

†Previously unstarred Question 986 transferred from the 31st July, 1986.